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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FERNALD  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
COMMUNITY MEETING TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS FEBRUARY 23, 1993**

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TRANSCRIPT**

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4 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
5 FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
6 COMMUNITY MEETING

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8 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
9 - - -

10 The above-styled meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. on  
11 Tuesday, February 23, 1993 at The Plantation, 9660  
12 Dry Fork Road, Harrison, Ohio.

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1 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, folks.  
2 I've got 7:00 and time for our public meeting to  
3 begin. If you could take your seats, we could get  
4 underway.

5 I'm Ken Morgan, the public  
6 information officer for the Department of Energy  
7 here at Fernald. And I welcome you all tonight on  
8 this cold meeting night.

9 We've got a lot on the agenda  
10 tonight, and you'll find several things on your  
11 table, or your chair, that might help out. One is  
12 an agenda for tonight.

13 We will try to get our presentations  
14 done as quickly as possible. We'll take a break  
15 after an hour or so to kind of refresh ourselves.  
16 And then we'll have a public forum afterwards so we  
17 get a chance to answer people's questions and take  
18 statements from the public.

19 We have also an evaluation form. We  
20 really appreciate it if you can evaluate the  
21 meeting. It helps us improve them. In particular  
22 we went to a lot of work this time to simplify and  
23 improve our display in the back, tried to write it  
24 in plain English and a little less technojargon.

1 And if you found some improvement there, let us  
2 know.

3 And also, sometimes folks during the  
4 question and answer session don't really feel like  
5 getting in front of everybody, and that's perfectly  
6 all right. That's why we got this little card. If  
7 you have a question, you can write it on this card,  
8 and if you'll give it to the women here at the end,  
9 the folks over at the desk here, we'll try to  
10 answer the question for you tonight.

11 If we can't, if you leave your name  
12 and a phone number, we can get back to you if we  
13 don't have that question, or answer, immediately  
14 available.

15 Just a few items of general interest  
16 and public information before we get started with  
17 the regular part of the meeting. One is the siren  
18 system. Good news, we have an improvement to the  
19 severe weather warning system.

20 Fernald, since March, 1991, has been  
21 using that, our warning siren system, as a severe  
22 weather warning system as part of the tornado  
23 warning system.

24 Unfortunately, it wasn't triggered

1 by Harrison here to the east. We've now made  
2 arrangements where that can be done so that now  
3 Harrison, which gets their weather data from  
4 Indianapolis, can give prompt warning to the  
5 public.

6 And that has already been tested  
7 already. We've changed the test system. We're  
8 just going to test it now on the first Wednesday of  
9 every month at noon.

10 Other good news is public water.  
11 Here, you see a picture of a presentation ceremony  
12 with the county commissioners; four and a half  
13 million dollars; 119 residents will be affected by  
14 a new water system in the county.

15 We just completed -- well, we didn't  
16 just complete -- last Fall we completed a community  
17 environmental education course. One hundred and  
18 eighty-six community residents attended this  
19 course. It was a series of evening sessions. Some  
20 fifty employees from the site took advantage of the  
21 course as well. It was so successful, we hope to  
22 start again with a new course in the Fall.

23 Just last Saturday, we had a real  
24 good time at the Science Bowl. There, you see the

1 Science Bowl underway. And go ahead and show the  
2 next viewgraph.

3 Here's the local team from Ross High  
4 School. They competed. They didn't win, but a  
5 team from Milford won and is going on to represent  
6 Cincinnati and go on to being sent to Washington,  
7 DC.

8 I was timer for these tests, and I  
9 was amazed at how incredibly bright the high school  
10 students are you've got here. The Department of  
11 Energy sponsored the Science Bowl in order to  
12 encourage kids to develop math and science skills  
13 so that we'll have a new generation of young people  
14 to take on the kind of tasks, cleanup tasks, that  
15 we've got at hand here at Fernald and around the  
16 country.

17 Related is Oak Hills High School.  
18 The Department of Energy has a little trouble with  
19 the way it writes. You may have noticed that some  
20 of our manuals aren't too easy to understand. To  
21 help us and set an example for us, we sponsored a  
22 competition, wrote high schools around the  
23 country. Here at Fernald, we wrote a lot of high  
24 schools here and asked them if they'd be interested

1 in helping us write one of our manuals.

2           The Oak Hills High School took on  
3 the challenge and proceeded to write an overview of  
4 your Environmental Management Restoration Program.  
5 This is a draft document. They came up with that  
6 one.

7           Of all the high schools in the  
8 country, the Oak Hills High School did the best  
9 job. So as a result of that, as a reward, they get  
10 to go to Washington, DC and do some more work.  
11 They're going to go there and get the real work of  
12 incorporating some of the stuff the other high  
13 schools developed and the headquarters work to  
14 develop the final product.

15           They did it, and they did a good  
16 job, and I'm real excited that Cincinnati is going  
17 to represent the country that way.

18           We have a risk round table  
19 tentatively scheduled March 23rd, 7:00 p.m., in the  
20 ERA Alpha Building. It is a round table to discuss  
21 how risk is assessed, how we are assessing risk  
22 here at Fernald, how -- what is the likelihood of  
23 an accident; what is the public health hazard as  
24 compared to other things if that occurred. If

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1 you're interested in that sort of thing, you might  
2 want to sign up for it here at the tables.

3 I want to bring to your attention a  
4 concept and initiative called the Fernald advisory  
5 committee, and we don't know what the name will be  
6 actually. But there's an initiative that started  
7 in headquarters -- it's actually greater than  
8 headquarters -- has to do with the executive  
9 branch, Department of Defense, Department of  
10 Interior, and many environmental groups to improve  
11 the way we manage waste management around the  
12 country.

13 One of the suggestions is that some  
14 citizen advisory committees can be useful in that  
15 process. We want to explore that possibility here  
16 at Fernald. And we'll be doing some one-on-one  
17 interviews with community leaders, government  
18 leaders as to how we might establish such a  
19 committee, and what its mission might be, and how  
20 it would serve to improve the process.

21 We'll expect this to happen over the  
22 next several months, wouldn't expect to see a  
23 committee, if it were to be formed, before the end  
24 of the year, Fall, anyway.



1                   Last of all, I want to point out,  
2 you'll see in the back these five-year plan  
3 documents. These are out for public review. The  
4 review period closes March 15th.

5                   Now, we had draft versions of these  
6 out earlier. We had brought to folks' attention  
7 there was a working group that worked on those.  
8 Comments were incorporated.

9                   But this is one more shot at the  
10 public having the opportunity to react to these  
11 documents. If there is enough interest, we will be  
12 happy to hold a workshop to answer people's  
13 questions about this.

14                   We have a tentative date of March  
15 2nd, but we'd like to get a feel for how many  
16 people -- We don't want to hold the meeting if  
17 people don't want to come and find it to be  
18 useful. If we get a sign, we'll be contacting  
19 you. Please see the folks again at the desk if  
20 you're interested.

21                   And with that, I'll introduce Jim  
22 Fiore.

23                   MR. FIORE: Okay. Thank you, Ken.  
24 For the people that I have not had the opportunity

1 to meet, I'm Jim Fiore. I had the privilege -- and  
2 I really mean it, it was a privilege -- of working  
3 at the site for 90 days as the acting site manager,  
4 and I enjoyed the experience immensely. I learned  
5 quite a bit.

6 I was very impressed with the people  
7 that we have and the people in the community that I  
8 dealt with, with Lisa and the other members of  
9 FRESH and their dedication to the cleanup  
10 activities here, and their involvement in the whole  
11 program has just been very, very impressive.

12 And, as I've mentioned before, I  
13 still follow Fernald back in Washington. So I'm  
14 going to continue to be involved very closely in  
15 the progress at the site, and will likewise be  
16 dedicated back there to making sure things are a  
17 success out here.

18 One question that always comes up is  
19 what are we doing about the permanent manager. And  
20 in November, I had mentioned that the issue was  
21 unresolved. Mr. Tiller is still officially on  
22 administrative leave.

23 We believe, with the new  
24 administration, and Secretary O'Leary has been on

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1 board about a month, we will be able to get that  
2 issue before her shortly. I can't give you a firm  
3 commitment on when that will be. But Pat  
4 Whitfield, my boss, has committed to try to push  
5 that up to the Secretary's attention as quickly as  
6 possible.

7 I think the reality of the situation  
8 is, with the budget exercises that are going on, as  
9 you're aware from President Clinton's address,  
10 there are major budget cuts for the Department of  
11 Energy and for other agencies. And that's where a  
12 lot of the Secretary's attention is right now. But  
13 I think all the people in Washington want to try to  
14 resolve this as quickly as we can.

15 What we are going to do is we've  
16 identified another acting manager for a 90-day  
17 period. And I have the pleasure of introducing  
18 him. Tom Rowland arrived at the site about two  
19 weeks ago and has already jumped in and is actively  
20 managing the site, and I've been impressed in my  
21 dealings with Tom. He brings a wealth of  
22 experience from the West Valley project, which  
23 likewise is a complicated DOE project, and I'd just  
24 like to introduce Tom.

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1 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you, Jim. I'd  
2 like to say that I'm proud to be here, and I came  
3 from the West Valley demonstration project, which  
4 is also an environmental waste management cleanup  
5 project that deals in high-level radioactive  
6 waste. So the product is a little different, but  
7 it's the same mission, to clean the place up.

8 I would say thank you for letting me  
9 come here. I talked to my wife last night. The  
10 neighbor came and shoveled the front steps so that  
11 she could get out the front door to go around to  
12 the back and shovel the back because she couldn't  
13 get the door open. There's over three feet of snow  
14 in Buffalo, New York. So thank you for letting me  
15 be here, and I hope I can do a good job for you.

16 (Laughter.)

17 MR. FIORE: Okay. Thank you, Tom.  
18 The next thing I'd like to do is something that is  
19 both good news and bad news. And as many of you  
20 know, Jerry Westerbeck will be leaving the site as  
21 the Deputy Manager and will be assuming a position  
22 back in Washington directly reporting to Pat  
23 Whitfield.

24 The people in Washington, Pat and all

1 the other office directors there, are very excited  
2 about having Jerry back there. What we'll be able  
3 to do is tap on his experience and not just benefit  
4 Fernald but benefit all the other environmental  
5 restoration projects that the Department of Energy  
6 has. So I think it's an excellent opportunity for  
7 us to draw upon Jerry's many, many talents.

8 Obviously, it is a loss to the site.  
9 I think Jerry has developed an excellent rapport  
10 with the community during his years here. And  
11 that's always been a high priority on his list.  
12 And I think that has paid off benefits in terms of  
13 level of community interaction and the relationship  
14 between the community and the Fernald project. So  
15 we're very, very happy to have him in Washington,  
16 and I would just like to introduce Jerry to say a  
17 few remarks.

18 MR. WESTERBECK: Thank you, Jim. To  
19 be more specific, Friday will be my last day at  
20 Fernald. And wow, has time flown by. Three years  
21 and three days ago -- that's the 20th of February,  
22 1990 -- one month to the day before I actually  
23 became the site manager at Fernald, there was a  
24 community meeting held at Strickers Grove. A lot

1 of you were there. I decided I would attend, but I  
2 would not make my presence known because there was  
3 always some remote possibility that the assignment  
4 would fall through.

5 Today I went over to the Public  
6 Affairs Office and pulled a couple pages out of the  
7 transcript from that meeting. And I thought I'd  
8 like to share a few sentences with you.

9 Page 4, Bobby Davis was the emcee. I  
10 think probably many of you remember Bobby Davis. I  
11 guess he had the job pretty much that Jack Craig  
12 has now. One of the things he said was the new  
13 site manager for the FEMPC office has not yet been  
14 named.

15 Later in the meeting, page 35, Lisa  
16 Crawford now is speaking, the next thing I have is,  
17 I think it was Mr. Davis who was talking about Mr.  
18 Reefschneider is gone now, and the new head has not  
19 been announced for here. I have a newspaper  
20 clipping right here, and she's holding it up, that  
21 tells me that Mr. Gerald Westerbeck will be our  
22 next DOE site manager. I'd like for Mr. Davis to  
23 explain this to me sometime this evening.

24 I was sitting about 12 feet away from

1 Lisa. I had jeans on, a sweater, jeans jacket, and  
2 I was, as I said, about 12 feet away from her, only  
3 one row difference. I didn't know what to do. So  
4 I sort of scrunched down in my seat, pulled my  
5 collar up a little bit, turned away a little bit  
6 from her, and waited until intermission so I could  
7 leave. I left poor Bobby Davis to explain the  
8 details as best he could. I thought I'd wait for  
9 another day to talk with Lisa. I got her  
10 permission to read that tonight.

11 Well, a lot of things have happened  
12 here in the past three years. Transition seems to  
13 have been the in word at Fernald. We transitioned  
14 from production to standby to shutdown. We  
15 transitioned from defense programs to environmental  
16 restoration and waste management. That was in  
17 October of 1990. That's when Leo Duffy became a  
18 prominent thing in our day-to-day activities.

19 In August, '91, we changed our name  
20 from the Feed Materials Production Center to the  
21 Fernald Environmental Management Project.

22 In February of '92, we began the  
23 transition and buildup from a DOE site office to  
24 become a DOE field office.

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1                   And then in September of '92, we  
2 initiated the transition from WEMCO to FERMCO,  
3 thereby becoming the first DOE site to have an ERMCO  
4 contractor.

5                   While there are some things I wish we  
6 could have done better, there are many things that  
7 we accomplished at Fernald that I'm especially  
8 proud of.

9                   I'm also very happy with our  
10 tremendously improved relationships with our  
11 neighbors and elected and appointed officials at  
12 township and county levels, with FRESH, with the  
13 media, and with both state and federal regulators.

14                   Three community items come quickly to  
15 mind. They include our agreement to make our siren  
16 system available for severe weather warnings, which  
17 Ken alluded to, our agreement to jointly fund  
18 bringing of public water to this area, and our  
19 agreement on notification procedures.

20                   With the regulators, we successfully  
21 negotiated and amended a consent agreement and an  
22 amended consent decree. I believe we're all now  
23 pointing in the same direction and focusing on the  
24 real issue, environmental restoration, and not at

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1 each other.

2 Westinghouse and Parsons deserve a  
3 lot of credit for this. The Westinghouse-DOE  
4 School of Environmental Excellence, the  
5 Westinghouse-DOE School of Environmental  
6 Remediation, and the eight-week community  
7 environmental education course were all excellent  
8 initiatives started here at Fernald.

9 Our public participation program is  
10 recognized as the best in DOE, not one of the best,  
11 the best. FRESH and Lisa Crawford deserve much of  
12 the credit for our superior program. It's nice and  
13 convenient to have an organized, interested group  
14 that we can turn to and work with when we need  
15 suggestions for topics for round tables and the  
16 like and the environmental education course.

17 I think it's also a real credit to  
18 our program here to have 2 representatives on the  
19 24-member National Environmental Management  
20 Advisory Committee, Vicki Dastillung from FRESH,  
21 and, of course, Tom Winston, the chief of the  
22 Southwest District office of the Ohio EPA. So we  
23 have essentially 2 representatives out of 24. Not  
24 exactly fair representation, but we don't complain

1 about that.

2 As most of you know, and as Jim said,  
3 I will be moving to Washington, DC to work directly  
4 for Pat Whitfield. Needless to say, I'm extremely  
5 excited and happy with this reassignment, not  
6 necessarily the change in my cost of living, but  
7 we'll adjust. And needless to say, so is my wife,  
8 Judy. She has wanted to go to Washington for --  
9 tonight, she reminded me -- the last 30 years and  
10 has not really been happy with my reluctance to  
11 pursue jobs up there. She has never attended a  
12 community meeting. So I told her, tonight is your  
13 last chance. And would you please stand.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. WESTERBECK: We've been to  
16 Vietnam, India, Okinawa, Japan and a few other  
17 places in this crazy world together, and she might  
18 as well be ready to go to Washington, DC. That  
19 somehow fits in that array of places.

20                   Pat Whitfield, as you all know, is a  
21 very fine engineer, manager, and leader, not just  
22 in DOE, but within the entire national  
23 environmental restoration arena. He is known by  
24 contractors and other federal agencies alike.

1 Since the Fernald program falls under Mr.  
2 Whitfield's program, I should be able to follow  
3 your successes here at Fernald and maybe even come  
4 back to visit once in a while. I consider all of  
5 you my friends and wish you the best in the coming  
6 years and months, months and years. Thank you very  
7 much.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. MORGAN: There are a few folks  
10 that knew that Jerry was going to be saying  
11 farewell tonight and wanted to acknowledge Jerry's  
12 contribution. Dick Duda, he's president of  
13 Parsons.

14 MR. DUDA: Good evening. Jerry was  
15 my first client on site here. We started in 1990,  
16 September 1st, and the path that Jerry laid out for  
17 us, we've been assiduously following, and with some  
18 success, I might say.

19 I have a small gift for Jerry here.  
20 You're going to the Capitol, the political capital  
21 of the world, so I'd like you to open this. It's a  
22 weather vane so he can tell which way the wind is  
23 blowing.

24 (Laughter.)

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. MORGAN: Bob Schwab, president  
3 of the Fernald Atomic Trades Council.

4 MR. SCHWAB: Well, we've been around  
5 Jerry a long time over here and we've given him an  
6 awful hard time at times with the union, along with  
7 Lisa. We kind of worked together and created a lot  
8 of those situations so that Jerry had all kinds of  
9 problems. We sure appreciated his response and the  
10 way he went about things.

11 And we'd -- we have joined up a  
12 little plaque here and like to read it: To Jerry  
13 Westerbeck, in recognition and appreciation for  
14 your personal contributions and leadership at the  
15 Fernald site, FRESH and the Fernald Atomic Trades  
16 and Labor Council.

17 MS. CRAWFORD: We need you to come  
18 down here.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Be careful,  
20 Jerry.

21 MS. CRAWFORD: Not only this, but  
22 we're also going to give you a FRESH ink pen so you  
23 can lay it on your desk. Make sure that Hazel  
24 O'Leary sees the word "FRESH" on there, too.

1                   And we're also going to give you  
2 something to put on your desk so everybody in the  
3 headquarters in your office can come to your office  
4 and read these. And there's also a little bitty  
5 one called the citizen guide so you can lay those  
6 on your desk and make sure everybody up there sees  
7 them.

8                   We just want to thank you because,  
9 again, I want to reiterate what Jerry said earlier,  
10 I gave Jerry a really hard time in the beginning.  
11 I give everybody a hard time. But we've -- Over  
12 the last three years, I think we've all come to  
13 work together very well, and we're going to really  
14 miss you. And the card we sent Jerry, I wish you  
15 would have brought it tonight. It was --

16                   MR. WESTERBECK: It's in the car.

17                   MS. CRAWFORD: It was a great card.  
18 The core group of FRESH sent Jerry a card, and it  
19 has these cats all over the front of it, and it  
20 said, "You must go; you have to go," and it said,  
21 "but there will be a hole left."

22                   And there will be a hole left at  
23 this site, and we're really going to miss you. We  
24 thank you for all your hard work and sitting down

1 at tables with us and having to make real  
2 difficult, hard decisions.

3 And also for caring. It takes  
4 someone who really cares. We really appreciated  
5 that, and we'll miss you. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. MORGAN: Well, thank you very  
8 much. Now, Nick Kaufman, president of FERMCO, is  
9 going to talk just for a few moments on a  
10 transition.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: Good evening. This is  
12 our first opportunity to give you a status report  
13 of our activities as FERMCO, the cleanup contractor  
14 at the site for now a little less than three  
15 months.

16 We began our transition activities  
17 on the 1st of September. The objectives are those  
18 that we've put up here. Basically we spent 90 days  
19 conducting fundamentally one on one interviews  
20 with, nearly 3,000 separate one on one interviews  
21 in order to try to understand what the views and  
22 aspirations and concerns and opportunities that  
23 were in the minds of the people that worked at the  
24 site.

1                   And our major activity was to  
2     conduct one on one interviews and to summarize and  
3     capture those, and from those, to begin to build an  
4     organization and to put together some initiatives  
5     that we think will have high payback in terms of  
6     allowing us to proceed with the cleanup of the site  
7     at less cost than was estimated in a way that was  
8     safer than previously planned.

9                   Perhaps one of the most difficult  
10    parts of that, and it's proving to be difficult,  
11    begins with the recognition that our scope of work  
12    or our contract encompasses the work scope that

13   formerly involved six other contractors, the work  
14   that had been done by Westinghouse, by ASI and by  
15   IT, by Russ Engineering, some of the Theta people,  
16   and some of the ERA people.

17                  So we've had the task early on to  
18    try to create a new corporation made out of people  
19    from the six corporations that were doing the work  
20    when we arrived, plus some new people that we  
21    brought with us in order to carry out the promises  
22    of the FERMCO proposal.

23                  During those 90 days, we had an  
24    opportunity to examine over 1,500 separate

1 contracts that were in existence and to work out  
2 with DOE and with Westinghouse a way to keep the  
3 work going even as we renegotiated well over 1,000  
4 new contracts.

5                   We had an opportunity through our  
6 evaluations to take a measure of the status of the  
7 project, the condition of the systems, the  
8 conditions of procedures and processes that were in  
9 use, again in order to try to find a way to make  
10 things better. And then that output of it were a  
11 number of initiatives, and I'd like to summarize at  
12 least a few of those with you.

13                   First and most difficult, as I said,  
14 was to try to put together a new organization and a  
15 new way of proceeding that was appropriate to a  
16 cleanup project, as opposed to the organizational  
17 structure that existed when we arrived, which  
18 fundamentally came from the manufacturing  
19 organization that existed at the site and the  
20 several contractors that were involved.

21                   Our organization is focused around  
22 five project teams we call CERCLA/RCRA units,  
23 CERCLA/RCRA units to emphasize that it's not  
24 sufficient to meet the requirements of the CERCLA



1 regulations as administered by EPA Region 5, but  
2 also the RCRA regulations as administered by Ohio  
3 EPA.

4                   So we have formed five project teams  
5 to carry forth the environmental work, and all of  
6 the rest of the organization is constructed to  
7 support them basically in three areas: In  
8 technical aspects, regulatory programs, technology  
9 programs; environmental health and safety; as well  
10 as operational and waste handling support.

11                   In the center is a series of  
12 operations or organizations that deal with the  
13 development of policy, conduct of audit and  
14 self-assessment, and then finally the  
15 administrative support that's required on a project  
16 like this; project control, configuration control,  
17 contracts, finance, and administration, which  
18 includes industrial relations, human resources,  
19 training, security and people-related kinds of  
20 organizations.

21                   That basic structure is the one that  
22 we're all trying to learn to go forward with.  
23 People drawn from ten different companies, and  
24 frankly in that lays the earliest and most

1 difficult challenge in order to forge a new team to  
2 go forward.

3                   Some of the other initiatives that I  
4 wanted to highlight was, first and most important,  
5 the introduction of the new health and safety  
6 program. Under that program, we've taken a new  
7 approach at contamination control in order to allow  
8 us to concentrate our resources where they're  
9 needed and to reduce the cost of being able to  
10 maintain a higher standard of contamination  
11 control.

12                   We've introduced a number of new  
13 things to improve worker health and safety along  
14 the lines of OSHA. They're incorporated in the new  
15 program, and we look forward to seeing those work  
16 out.

17                   Our safety statistics for the first  
18 three months are encouraging. It shows that the  
19 new program, and the attitude, and the effort of  
20 the people that are carrying it out is working  
21 well, and as a result, our safety performance is  
22 almost twice as good as it had been earlier. And I  
23 hope we can keep that same record of performance  
24 up.

1                   We've tried to refocus our training  
2 activities in order to get the required amount of  
3 training, and to do it at less cost, and to try to  
4 make better use of the time spent in training.

5                   Our training has now been refocused  
6 on health and safety, a supervisory training and  
7 worker retraining as the three mainstreams of what  
8 we do. If we get those right, most everything else  
9 will follow.

10                   We've been actively trying to take a  
11 new look at how we -- how we're housed and  
12 quartered. We're overcrowded as we start. We're  
13 dispersed and, somehow, over the next two years,  
14 need to accommodate a growth to a total manpower of  
15 someplace in the order of four to five thousand  
16 dollars -- excuse me, four to five thousand  
17 people.

18                   We're exploring basically three  
19 options at this point, new facilities on site, to  
20 find new facilities near site, or to find  
21 facilities as they currently exist, and have a  
22 number of activities underway to try to do that.

23                   We are trying to introduce new  
24 systems, new systems in terms of a new financial

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1 accounting system, a new project control system,  
2 and most importantly, some new data handling and  
3 data validation systems.

4 Our assessment was that the systems  
5 that we found would not be adequate to handle the  
6 workload in the future or the kind of acceleration  
7 that we believe is possible.

8 We believe that we can improve on  
9 the laboratory strategy that had been in place,  
10 specifically ways to allow us to turn our  
11 laboratory samples more quickly and to improve the  
12 quality of the sample when taken. And we've put  
13 together a new draft plan that's currently in  
14 review.

15 Obviously, the main job is to get  
16 our arms around the environmental cleanup, and to  
17 set in motion some things that we think are  
18 possible to accelerate the cleanup. A key part of  
19 that and perhaps the most important are to begin to  
20 take on early the questions of how clean is clean,  
21 and what do we do with the waste, and what is the  
22 end use of the site.

23 Ken talked about the citizen  
24 advisory panel. We hope to develop a strategy

1 incorporating the citizen advisory panel in order  
2 to accelerate the conversation on those subjects.

3 It's very difficult. None of us can  
4 forecast when the job will be done until we get  
5 answers to those questions, and so that becomes the  
6 key to carrying out the activity.

7 Something that I was a little  
8 surprised to find, and yet it's proving very  
9 important, is the issue of declaration of property  
10 and property values.

11 We found that one of the key  
12 impediments to waste disposal was the fact that

13 many of the items on the site were carried in the  
14 federal books at high value, even though the  
15 regulatory process had declared that they were  
16 waste.

17 So we had a dichotomy that, on the  
18 one hand, it appeared to have high value in the  
19 federal system; in the other, it was waste in the  
20 federal system, and that we're not able to dispose  
21 of this material or equipment as waste until we can  
22 reconcile the two.

23 So we've had a very significant  
24 effort working with DOE to get the book values in

1 line with the declarations under the environmental  
2 laws.

3 And finally, as Ray will talk about,  
4 we've had a number of activities to try to  
5 accelerate the amount of waste that is shipped off  
6 site, both directly for disposal as well as in the  
7 form of recycle. And I think you're going to talk  
8 about that briefly.

9 Having come through all of that and  
10 taken a look at the site, I'll share with you what  
11 our view is today of where we can be five years  
12 from now.

13 Clearly we have to put together an  
14 effective company that consolidates the cultures  
15 and personalities from the several companies that  
16 were involved.

17 We have to establish a record of a  
18 higher standard of public health and safety. We  
19 continue to believe that, based on the evaluations  
20 that we made during transition, that at the end of  
21 the five-year period, we can be a year ahead of the  
22 milestones in the Consent Agreement and continue to  
23 believe that that's possible.

24 We also believe that, relative to

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1 the budgets that were put in place in fiscal '92,  
2 that we can save at least \$300,000,000 against  
3 those budgets, and continue to believe that that's  
4 certainly very possible.

5           Clearly in the five-year period, we  
6 have to answer the strategic questions. I think we  
7 would all be very remiss if we haven't found a way  
8 to come together and get answers to the questions  
9 that allow us then to prosecute the cleanup at the  
10 cheapest and the fastest way.

11           And finally, I believe that, at the  
12 end of that period, we ought to see some of the new  
13 approaches and some of the opportunities for  
14 acceleration paying off. Ken.

15           MR. MORGAN: Ray Hansen will now  
16 speak about operations.

17           MR. HANSEN: Good evening. Some of  
18 the subjects I'll talk about are listed on this  
19 slide. This is safe shutdown program. Basically  
20 it's a status to tell you where we are from where  
21 we were the last time we met.

22           In terms of production equipment,  
23 one of the chief priorities in safe shutdown, of  
24 course, is to clean out the production equipment.

1 In doing that, what we're doing is a plant by plant  
2 assessment. That's not only looking at hold-up  
3 materials that's in the equipment, but we're also  
4 looking at any permits required for future  
5 activities, any compliance data that we have to  
6 pull together.

7 We've already completed Plant 4.  
8 We're now going into Plant 1, and some of the  
9 scheduled activities we have, maintenance has been  
10 scheduled for utility disconnect.

11 One of our biggest concerns in safe  
12 shutdown is that all the utilities are disconnected  
13 before we get into this equipment. We want to do  
14 this safely. We have also scheduled the hold-up  
15 material for removal and also the disposition of  
16 some of the equipment. Right now we've got a hold  
17 on that until we have adequate procedures that  
18 we'll approve when submitted from FERMCO.

19 On the production equipment, some of  
20 the potential bidders -- We've talked about the  
21 sale of uranium. Some of the potential bidders are  
22 interested in that equipment, and if we can give  
23 that equipment to them, that will save us cost of  
24 disposal plus taxpayer money to reproduce the

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1 equipment if it's a domestic bidder that wins the  
2 bid.

3 Materials disposition, we've talked  
4 about the waste we got off site, and Nick mentioned  
5 a little bit of the accelerated waste that I will  
6 talk about later. But to date since we began  
7 shipping, we've shipped some 365,000 drum  
8 equivalents of waste. I say drum equivalents  
9 specifically because one of the problems we've had  
10 is we've not been able to ship drummed materials.

11 We do have a contract with an outside  
12 vendor to come in and take our depleted rain  
13 residues, and basically they'll use a  
14 superextractor to squeeze the moisture out of the  
15 materials.

16 As you know, or may not know, Nevada  
17 Test Site will not accept any materials that have  
18 free-standing liquids. Another problem we have in  
19 some of the residues is that there is free metal  
20 uranium. It must be oxidized before it can be  
21 shipped. As you know, uranium is pyrophoric, and  
22 we have to do that before we can safely ship. One  
23 of the big problems with enriched residues is that  
24 no commercial vendor can do that or is licensed to

1 do that processing of our enriched uranium  
2 materials.

3 So that's the problem. What are we  
4 going to do about it? We looked at alternative  
5 solutions. One, we can lease or contract a vendor  
6 dryer to actually come on site and dry those  
7 materials before we ship them to NTS and to oxidize  
8 the free metal uranium.

9 We could also look at leasing or  
10 contracting a vendor for the superextractor to come  
11 on site to squeeze the materials out. We also  
12 looked at the option of permitting and, through  
13 permitting through the State of Ohio, in using the  
14 existing rotary kiln on site as a dryer-oxidizer.

15 As you know, the rotary kiln was  
16 installed as a production item, has never been  
17 used. We would require a state authorized permit  
18 to operate it, and we would look for this thing to  
19 operate over a two-year period used only as a  
20 dryer.

21 Let me be very specific about that,  
22 used only as a dryer. And, in fact, that's what  
23 the permit would say. Now, we would look for this  
24 to operate over a two-year period, but prior to

1 that, it would -- we would have a three-phase test  
2 period that lasts about five months. This would be  
3 overseen by the Southwestern Ohio Air Pollution  
4 Control Agency.

5                   Next slide. This is a shot of the  
6 rotary kiln. As you can see, it's brand new, never  
7 been used.

8                   Okay. Next slide, please. Since  
9 we've transferred from DP to EM, we have shipped  
10 off site some 3,350 metric tons of materials. The  
11 equivalency is about 7 and a half million pounds.  
12 This includes some 1,844 metric tons of Army  
13 material that we shipped to the defense  
14 consolidated facility in South Carolina. So what  
15 we're going to do in the future, of course, is  
16 complete that transfer of the Army material, and we  
17 are right now consolidating and packaging some  
18 thousand metric tons that will go to Nevada, we  
19 hope, in March.

20                   Actually, since this is US Army  
21 material, they have to negotiate with NTS to have  
22 the material shipped to NTS and buried there. We  
23 expect, probably by the end of this month or early  
24 next month, to have an audit by MBO, and we would

1 expect the materials to actually -- start shipping  
2 those materials in March.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is the Army  
4 going to pay for that?

5 MR. HANSEN: Yes. Yes, we already  
6 have the money, too. As you know, we've sent  
7 request for proposals out on the normal and  
8 enriched -- a request for proposal, we've shipped  
9 that to 13 companies. We've got 3 bids. The  
10 responses were received 8th of February. They're  
11 now being evaluated, and the winning bidder will be  
12 selected by Hanford Westinghouse -- Hanford,  
13 Washington.

14 The depleted request for proposal was  
15 mailed to six companies in January, responses due  
16 early March. We have had both domestic and foreign  
17 companies bid on the normal and enriched, and we  
18 expect the same for the depleted.

19 If it's a domestic bid that's  
20 successful, he will have to comply with all  
21 regulatory requirements, including license to  
22 handle this material. If it's a foreign bidder  
23 that wins the proposal, then, of course, they have  
24 to follow not only our regulations but the

1 International Atomic Energy Agency regulations and  
2 have proper licenses and permits.

3 Thorium, one of the things we're  
4 really desperate to get off site. We've already  
5 shipped 167 metric tons to Nevada. That was  
6 completed September 30th, 1992. We still have 769  
7 metric tons that are being overpacked now, and we  
8 would probably expect to have most of that shipped  
9 off by the end of FY-94. That will not complete  
10 the total amount of uranium, and the reason is the  
11 overpacking in Building 67.

12 In characterization stabilization,  
13 you may remember that when we talked about  
14 containers of thorium, we originally started with  
15 about 15,000 containers. You'll notice the number  
16 keeps changing.

17 But out of the 10,551 current  
18 containers, we've determined that 11 are RCRA,  
19 which means we can't ship those, and we have 2  
20 drums that remain to be evaluated in Building 6.  
21 Building 6 houses the most deteriorated drums of  
22 thorium on site.

23 In stabilization for the thorium  
24 nitrate, we've done sample characterization,

1 preliminary planning, and what we're trying to do  
2 now is let a contract with an outside vendor to  
3 actually help us in the process, to come in and  
4 neutralize that material to give us added  
5 procedures and to help in the actual process.  
6 We'll keep you posted on progress on that.

7                   In the overpacking, Buildings 64 and  
8 68 are complete. The slide says Building 67 will  
9 be completed by the end of this month. It may be  
10 early March before we complete that. The snow has  
11 held us up on it. That leaves of course Building  
12 65 to be overpacked. And we don't expect that to  
13 start until late this Fall. Status so far, we've  
14 overpacked 2,910 containers with 3,000 more to be  
15 overpacked.

16                   Just a little graph to show how much  
17 material we've shipped off site. You can see to  
18 date, or at least effective February 16th, we've  
19 shipped off 365,000 drum equivalents.

20                   You'll notice the gold is a little  
21 larger than it was last year. FERMCO came to us  
22 and said they could get that 117,000 drum  
23 equivalents off by June this year, so we challenged  
24 FERMCO to go back and look at what they could get

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1 off by the end of this year.

2 And we're now looking at an  
3 accelerated goal of 181,000 drums. If we complete  
4 that, we're talking about well over a half million  
5 drums or drum equivalents of material shipped off  
6 site.

7 In the future, we'll talk about waste  
8 disposition and not just shipment because actually  
9 we're shipping to vendors for them to dispose of,  
10 either for free release, or recycling, or other  
11 recovery. So in the future, what we're going to  
12 try is to show you waste dispositioned off site and  
13 not shipments.

14 Status on the two contracts that  
15 we've let to ship residues and metal, scrap metal  
16 contracts, the vendor has mobilized, and we did  
17 start shipments early this month. The drummed  
18 residue, the vendor is mobilized for that, and we  
19 expect those shipments to start yet this week.

20 Some of the other things we're doing  
21 to get materials off site, this is a shot of  
22 containerization of our copper scrap piles. We got  
23 some 13 and 1400 tons of copper on site. And this  
24 is a shot of what we have, two piles -- actually

1 one we call the small pile and one the larger  
2 pile. That's a shot of containerization in the  
3 small pile.

4 We think we're done with the small  
5 pile, and we think we're about 50 percent completed  
6 with the containerization of the large pile. And  
7 we'll keep you posted on progress on that, too.

8 Before I sit down, I'd like to  
9 publicly thank Jerry Westerbeck. Remember, you  
10 know he mentioned a number of contributions that  
11 were made while he was here. Actually the list is  
12 very, very long.

13 We at the site office appreciate all  
14 the leadership that he's given us, and all the  
15 contributions he's made. I want to wish him well  
16 in his new job at Washington and tell him, remember  
17 your friends at Fernald. Thanks, Jerry.

18 MR. MORGAN: Thanks for that  
19 overview of our waste management operations. Now  
20 Jack Craig will talk about cleanup activities.

21 MR. CRAIG: Thank you, Ken. What  
22 I'd like to do tonight is give you a brief update  
23 on the CERCLA activities that have taken place  
24 since our last public meeting in November.

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1                   A couple things before I get  
2 started. In the back of the room, there are a  
3 number of handouts which I think are very good  
4 information. We have one that deals with the  
5 ongoing removals at the site. We now have  
6 identified 30 ongoing removal actions that have all  
7 been completed or are on schedule.

8                   We also have a listing of the current  
9 RI/FS documents that are available to review all  
10 the milestones. And there's also the Fernald  
11 Cleanup Report, which gives details on all the  
12 things I'm going to talk about tonight, and some  
13 more on the individual operable units. You may  
14 want to pick one of those up if you haven't  
15 already.

16                   We'll start out with Operable Unit  
17 1. I'll go through all five of the operable  
18 units. For those of you not familiar with the  
19 definition, Operable Unit 1 includes the waste pit  
20 area at the site, six waste pits and a clear well  
21 which was a runoff collection basin.

22                   On Operable Unit 1, we are currently  
23 undergoing a data evaluation. FERMCO has a number  
24 of people working on looking at all of the RI/FS

1 data that exists for OU-1. That data is being  
2 evaluated. That report is scheduled to be  
3 submitted to EPA and available for public review in  
4 October of this year. And that's currently on  
5 schedule.

6 Removal actions for Operable Unit 1,  
7 in the back of the room, if you have time at the  
8 end of the meeting or during breaks, there's some  
9 information on the Pit 5 removal action. And the  
10 Pit 5 removal action was done to essentially reduce  
11 any potential of wind erosion from waste materials  
12 in Pit 5. Pit 5 is an open pit. It's not been  
13 used since the mid-80's, but it was partially  
14 covered with water and partially had some exposed  
15 material.

16 What we did, after approval by both  
17 Ohio and US EPA, was to redistribute the material  
18 in the pit and make sure water cover covered the  
19 entire pit to prevent any wind erosion.

20 I think we've got one picture of it  
21 here. This was a dredging machine that was used to  
22 redistribute the material so that the water cover  
23 could be placed in the waste pit to make sure the  
24 materials were covered. This removal action was

1 completed in January of this year. And it was  
2 completed ahead of schedule.

3 Operable Unit 2, as some of you may  
4 know, we've had a few difficulties and with the RI  
5 report. The RI report for this operable unit was  
6 submitted to EPA in October of last year. We got  
7 comments and a disapproval of that document back  
8 from EPA in December.

9 In early February of this year, DOE  
10 requested a schedule extension for submittal of  
11 both the RI/FS and the Record of Decision for  
12 OU-2.

13 For a number of reasons based on the  
14 agreement that additional data was needed for OU-2,  
15 EPA has not yet approved that extension, in fact  
16 was disapproved on February 9th.

17 We have actively met with both Ohio  
18 and US EPA two times within the last two weeks,  
19 including today, to try to come to agreement on the  
20 additional sample or the scope needed for OU-2 and  
21 what the revised schedule would be.

22 I think, as a result of our meeting  
23 today, we're fairly close on an agreement and what  
24 we think needs to be done as far as sample goes,

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1 although there are still some questions on the  
2 schedule, and DOE has committed to get back with  
3 EPA as soon as possible on some actions to try to  
4 reduce the schedule.

5                   We are now -- What's spelled out in  
6 our Consent Agreement, called informal dispute  
7 resolution, which is a kind of mechanism that we  
8 use to work out disagreements through the informal  
9 stage. But, I believe, March 10th, it gets  
10 elevated, and there are a number of mechanisms  
11 outlined in the Consent Agreement to get it  
12 resolved. If DOE and EPA cannot reach resolution,  
13 according to what's in the Consent Agreement at  
14 different levels, the final determination is made  
15 by the EPA administrator.

16                   On removal actions, we've identified  
17 a potential removal action on the inactive flyash  
18 pile which we've discussed with both Ohio and US  
19 EPA. It's kind of hard to see here.

20                   But basically, in an area on the west  
21 side of the inactive flyash pile near Paddy's Run,  
22 we've noticed the possible evidence of some erosion  
23 caused by that bend in Paddy's Run.

24                   And one of the things we want to do

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1 is go in and take some active measure to make sure  
2 Paddy's Run does not erode materials in the  
3 inactive flyash pile into Paddy's Run, down through  
4 Paddy's Run, and maybe into the aquifer.

5 So we're discussing that with EPA.  
6 Hopefully in the next two to three weeks we'll have  
7 an official proposal to EPA, and we'll discuss it  
8 with you at the next meeting.

9 Operable Unit 3, which is the former  
10 production area at the site, that includes all the  
11 equipment, facilities, and utilities at the site.  
12 DOE has made a proposal to both Ohio and US EPA to  
13 accelerate some of the D&D work, or decontamination  
14 and decommission work, on the facilities.

15 There's been a recognition that the  
16 former production facilities do not have a future  
17 mission that is identified. And DOE and EPA have  
18 agreed that the D&D of those facilities themselves  
19 does not really need to wait until the Record of  
20 Decision, which is currently in May of 1997.

21 We've made a proposal to EPA to  
22 accelerate the D&D of those facilities by about two  
23 years. We're still looking at ways to accelerate  
24 that even more, and I'll update you further at the

1 next meeting. But we're still in active  
2 discussions with both US and Ohio EPA, finding out  
3 the appropriate documentation to do that, and what  
4 type of public involvement we need to get that  
5 done.

6 Our removal actions -- Back on the  
7 RI/FS, the current Record of Decision for OU-2 is  
8 May of '97, like I said. That portion of the  
9 Record of Decision would address the waste disposal  
10 of the waste generated through the D&D work. So  
11 that milestone would stay, and we would have  
12 interim milestones to go ahead and make a decision  
13 to D&D the building.

14 On removal actions, two of them I  
15 want to talk about. We have the Plant 1 silo or  
16 removal process which I spoke of at the last  
17 meeting, really the first major D&D project at the  
18 site. I'm happy to report construction or  
19 demolition on the silos is scheduled to begin next  
20 week. And it's currently scheduled to be completed  
21 in December of 1994, and we feel confident that  
22 that date will be met.

23 On the Plant 1 pad upgrade, I also  
24 mentioned this in the last meeting, the fact that

1 most of the work was under construction. The Plant  
2 1 pad upgrade was done in three phases.

3 Phase one, which was the application  
4 of some runoff controls around the perimeter of the  
5 old existing pad, that portion was completed ahead  
6 of schedule in January of last year.

7 Phase two, which was the construction  
8 of the pad area and the two large tension  
9 structures on the right side of the picture here,  
10 that was phase two to provide 80,000 square feet of  
11 covered storage for waste material. That portion  
12 of the removal action was completed last December,  
13 also ahead of schedule.

14 And phase three is a complete  
15 renovation of the surface of the existing pad.  
16 That's on schedule for completion in February of  
17 1995.

18 As can you see, there is a -- the  
19 storage on the Plant 1 pad is getting much better,  
20 much improved over what it was. What we're able to  
21 do now is put more and more drums under cover out  
22 of the weather, which is very good for their life  
23 and overpacking operation.

24 Operable Unit 4, like I said with

1 Operable Unit 2, DOE has proposed a schedule to EPA  
2 on Operable Unit 2 which would essentially move  
3 that Record of Decision back and make Operable Unit  
4 the first Record of Decision for the site if it's  
5 approved by EPA. We now have an RI report that's  
6 under preparation. That report is due to EPA in  
7 April of this year, April 19th, which is currently  
8 on schedule.

9                   The feasibility study for this  
10 operable unit is on schedule for submittal to EPA  
11 in September of this year. And the Record of  
12 Decision, which would now be the first Record of  
13 Decision, would be June of 1994.

14                   Two short notes on removal actions.  
15 Bentonite effectiveness. We have continued  
16 monitoring of the bentonite and the radon at the  
17 base of the silos. The removal action which was to  
18 reduce radon by placing bentonite, a bentonite cap,  
19 inside the silo domes continues to be effective,  
20 estimated about 99 percent radon retention as a  
21 result of the removal action.

22                   Decant subtank, we had a project --  
23 well, the decant subtank is a tank located  
24 underground beneath silos 1 and 2 and was used



1 historically to collect water that had accumulated  
2 both in silos 1 and silos 2 after material was  
3 pumped in there. And the water would decant into  
4 this decant tank.

5 We had a project that was completed  
6 back in April of 1991 to pump the tank out because  
7 the tank was deteriorated, and there was a  
8 potential for the contents of the tank to leak into  
9 the aquifer. So it was pumped out and completed in  
10 April of 1991.

11 We completed the second pump out of  
12 that tank in February, the 2nd of this month. That  
13 material is currently stored in a tank where it's  
14 monitored outside of Plant 2/3. So we continue to  
15 monitor the decant tank, and we'll remove the  
16 liquids as it fills up.

17 Operable Unit 5 includes the  
18 environmental media at the sites, really the  
19 evaluation of groundwater, surface water, soils and  
20 other environmental media. There's a lot of data  
21 been accumulated for OU-5 over the last 5 to 7  
22 years.

23 FERMCO's now doing a detailed  
24 evaluation of all that data, really getting ready

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1 to start the remedial investigation report. FERMCO  
2 is also looking at additional well installations  
3 and additional sample and existing wells to support  
4 the OU-5 RI report.

5 On removal actions, little update on  
6 the South Plume. As I've talked about at a few  
7 other meetings, the removal was broken up into five  
8 phases.

9 Phase one, which was the providing  
10 alternate water supply to industries south of the  
11 site, construction on that phase, the removal  
12 action was completed in December, and it's  
13 currently awaiting start-up after approval by Ohio  
14 EPA.

15 The phase two, which is the actual  
16 installation of extract wells in the southern --  
17 off site and south of the Fernald Environmental  
18 Management Project -- that continues on schedule.

19 This is a picture of the outfall of  
20 the new effluent line to the river. As part of  
21 part two in this removal action, we constructed a  
22 new effluent line to take care of the increased  
23 capacity that will result from pumping water from  
24 the south from off site.

1                   This removal action, as I mentioned  
2 last time, we had some difficulties in obtaining  
3 some off-site access to properties to install the  
4 wells. We're now in the final phase of gaining  
5 access to those properties and hope to have that  
6 done by the middle of next month. The schedule for  
7 part two remains, or we remain on schedule, and  
8 this portion is scheduled for completion in August  
9 of this year.

10                   Part three was the installation of  
11 treatment systems on site to treat streams of water  
12 that were contaminated from the site. Construction  
13 on those units was completed on schedule in August  
14 of this year.

15                   Phase four included monitoring of  
16 off-site wells and routine monitoring of private  
17 homeowner wells in the area to make sure people  
18 weren't using contaminated water.

19                   And part five was the -- an  
20 assessment of areas south of the recovery well  
21 field to see whether or not there are any  
22 interactions with other contaminants that may have,  
23 that may be in the area from the Paddy's Run Road  
24 site.

1                   We have completed hydropumping or  
2     some quick well installations in that area. We are  
3     formulating a formal monitoring plan based on the  
4     investigations we've done in that area, and that  
5     will be presented to EPA within the next two  
6     weeks.

7                   That's all I had on an update. I,  
8     like Ray, would like to also say thanks to Jerry  
9     Westerbeck. Thanks for his three years of service  
10    here. I, like other people, have talked, and I  
11    think the site has made outstanding progress since  
12    Jerry was here. I know I have personally learned a  
13    lot from Jerry, and we mentioned the increased  
14    public involvement.

15                  I think there's also been, and maybe  
16    just as importantly, a model work effort or ethic  
17    brought by Jerry to the site that I think people  
18    will remember. I know the site and DOE staff will  
19    miss Jerry, and I wish he and Judy much luck in  
20    Washington. Once again, thanks.

21                  MR. MORGAN: Folks have been very  
22    patient. We have just one more presenter. Wally  
23    Quaider will talk about environmental monitoring  
24    report and environmental monitoring program, and

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1 he's promised me he will be very brief.

2 MR. QUAIDER: See, they don't  
3 believe it. They're looking at me like they don't  
4 believe it. Everybody else said something about  
5 Jerry. I'll say it. First, Jerry, it's not  
6 everyone who gets hugged by Lisa Crawford. I'm  
7 sure Nick's really looking forward to that  
8 experience.

9 (Laughter.)

10 MR. QUAIDER: Jerry and Judy are  
11 close personal friends of mine. I considered  
12 hugging him myself, but with so many old and  
13 present site managers around --

14 (Laughter.)

15 MR. QUAIDER: -- some other time.  
16 They made me promise to talk only a few minutes.  
17 They underlined minutes, so I'll get on with it.

18 Last December, approximately, we put  
19 out the annual site environmental report. First,  
20 maybe I should tell the people what that is, those  
21 who don't know what it is. It is, first and  
22 foremost, to me, and I have that program, is what  
23 we use to judge our compliance and the status and  
24 progress of the site.

1                   A unique thing about the report is  
2 that over the years it's been written, and we've  
3 tried to put information so that the public could  
4 better understand what was happening, and what  
5 we're doing in the entire field.

6                   I think a lot of credit goes to the  
7 people who've worked on that. They've done that  
8 quite well. We use the report. It helps us to  
9 assess the site, the site's impact on the  
10 surrounding area, and to estimate the radiation  
11 doses to the population.

12                  To give you a concept of how large --  
13 go ahead, I've got some background type picture  
14 slides.

15                  The program is for this coming year,  
16 1992, this report, which the good news is that I  
17 expect it to come out, and I will -- let's see, I  
18 wouldn't put my firstborn on it, but we'll say  
19 August, September.

20                  UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We'll believe  
21 it when we see it.

22                  MR. QUAIDER: What I've been told,  
23 the reason I pass that on is, probably for the  
24 first time in two years, we expect the lab samples

1 back in March.

2 In 1992, we're taking around 200  
3 samples. And just the cost of the sampling is  
4 approximately \$800,000 in comparing 1990 to 1991,  
5 the two reports we have. I strongly encourage the  
6 people to pick up a copy of these reports.

7 Uranium discharge to the Miami River  
8 reduced approximately 370 pounds. Some of the work  
9 that we're doing is apparently working. Uranium  
10 discharges to the air dropped approximately 6 and a  
11 half pounds.

12 Direct radiation to the maximally  
13 exposed individual -- who's that, that's no one;  
14 it's a made-up person who is closest to the site  
15 that would get the most exposure -- the difference  
16 between those two years is insignificant. It's  
17 point two millirem. Total doses to the maximally  
18 exposed individual dropped point nine.

19 We expect that this next report will  
20 show more significant increases because these past  
21 two years, when you look at it, don't include the  
22 bentonite for the K-65 silos. So we should see a  
23 significant reduction in our next set of numbers.  
24 And with that, good night.

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1 MR. MORGAN: Thanks, Wally. It's  
2 been our custom at this point to take a short  
3 break, about five minutes, get a drink, take care  
4 of business, and then come on back when we have our  
5 public forum at that time.

6 (Brief recess.)

7 MR. MORGAN: Okay. Folks, you've  
8 had more than five minutes. Folks, could you  
9 please take your seats so we can continue. Will  
10 our presenters come back to the table. I'd like to  
11 remind you, the folks that had questions, please  
12 bring them up to the table up here (indicating),  
13 and we'll be happy to try and field those for you.  
14 With that, Jim Saric from EPA.

15 MR. SARIC: I'm going to try to keep  
16 this kind of short because I know it's getting a  
17 little late, and I was asked to kind of keep this  
18 short to move things along.

19 I'm sure some of you have heard  
20 about our dispute, or penny dispute, right now  
21 between agencies. And I want to assure you that  
22 we're doing all efforts to try to resolve this as  
23 soon as possible.

24 I know in the past there were



1 concerns regarding disputes between the two  
2 agencies, that all efforts would be focused on that  
3 rather than moving on with other activities.

4 I can assure you that, right now, our  
5 discussions with the Department of Energy are going  
6 on their path according to schedule while we try to  
7 work out these other issues.

8 Jack basically went over the key  
9 things that occurred in early February. On the  
10 2nd, the Department of Energy asked for an  
11 extension request for some of the major milestones  
12 or dates for the OU-2 remedial investigation  
13 activities. Then on the 9th, we -- actually we  
14 denied that extension request, and on the 16th, the  
15 DOE formally invoked the steps for informal dispute  
16 resolution.

17 Right now, we're trying to get  
18 through that, and we've had two meetings, and I  
19 think that they've been very good, regarding  
20 actually the scope of work that needs to be done  
21 and the additional sample that needs to be  
22 achieved. Think we're pretty close on that, which  
23 is a positive.

24 Regarding schedules, I think we still

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1 have some things to discuss and move forward on  
2 that. I want you to know that, at EPA, we consider  
3 these milestones as a high priority, our Consent  
4 Agreement and on the milestones, a high priority.  
5 And we are going to continue all our efforts to  
6 enforce these milestones in the Consent Agreement  
7 and to keep them on line as much as we can.

8 We will try to keep you informed  
9 about anything that goes on in the future. And I  
10 can assure you that there is going to be delay.  
11 There's no question about it, that the Operable  
12 Unit 2 Record of Decision will not occur in  
13 December. I think the DOE made that clear. There  
14 will be some delay in that, remedial investigation  
15 activities related to that. But we're going to  
16 keep on moving forward and try to keep things  
17 moving the best we can, and we'll keep you  
18 informed.

19 If you have any questions, feel free  
20 to ask me during the question and answer period.  
21 Thanks.

22 MR. MORGAN: Now, Graham Mitchell  
23 from EPA in Ohio.

24 MR. MITCHELL: Nobody talked to me

1 about limiting my presentation.

2 (Laughter.)

3 MR. MITCHELL: I wanted to say that  
4 there was mention earlier about negotiating an  
5 amended Consent Agreement. That has been  
6 finalized.

7 As you may remember, going back to  
8 1990 when the State of Ohio filed contempt charges  
9 against DOE and the contractor about, mainly  
10 regarding the releases from the Plant 1 pad. The  
11 amended Consent decree that resulted from that has  
12 finally been finalized.

13 And the really good news on that is  
14 that it took so long to move through the legal  
15 process that most of the milestones resolving waste  
16 characterization issues and hazardous waste storage  
17 have been resolved and already been met.

18 And as Jim just said, you're already  
19 aware that there is going to be a delay in the OU-2  
20 RI. I think we're working really hard to resolve  
21 these issues. And I think, really, the good news  
22 is that we are close to resolving what additional  
23 work needs to be done.

24 And additional work on the other

1 operable units is still continuing, and I want to  
2 make sure, everyone, that you understand we're not  
3 at any kind of a standstill and gridlock as  
4 occurred several years ago in 1991 when we took  
5 about a six-month hiatus to renegotiate all the  
6 milestones. And that is not happening this year.

7                   And the other thing that's still  
8 continuing is the progress in the removal actions.  
9 I continue to believe that one of the most  
10 profitable environmental activities that we can do  
11 on this site is to handle some of the problems that  
12 are causing releases and reduce those.

13                   Public water supply, this is one of  
14 the biggest issues. I think it is, and I'm so  
15 appreciative to Jerry Westerbeck for the early  
16 support on this issue. I think he was the one, one  
17 of the people, that, very early in the process,  
18 recognized that this issue would be one of the most  
19 important issues addressing some of the  
20 environmental problems of the past and helping the  
21 local community. I think he deserves to be  
22 commended for his effort on that.

23                   During the next several months, we're  
24 going to begin -- we're going to work with the

1 legal community, the legal officials, US EPA and  
2 DOE, to begin, and I stress begin, a process to  
3 address some of the really big issues yet to be --  
4 that are really outstanding towards moving towards  
5 cleanup of this site. And this is the final  
6 cleanup issues. Those issues are waste disposal  
7 issues. Where the waste is going to end up. How  
8 clean is clean? What are the cleanup levels that  
9 we'll be trying to get to and the future uses or  
10 potential future uses for the Fernald site.

11               These are really critical issues that  
12 impact every one of you out there, and we need to  
13 hear your input on this. The initial efforts on  
14 this are not going to be someone telling you what's  
15 going to happen at the site; it's going to be  
16 listening to you, discussing the options, the  
17 universe of possibilities, and hearing from you  
18 what you think.

19               In the past several weeks, moving on,  
20 in the past several weeks, Ohio has submitted a  
21 finalized AIP. AIP is an agreement in principle.  
22 It's an agreement negotiated between the State of  
23 Ohio and DOE to bring resources to Ohio to properly  
24 oversee the cleanup of sites like Fernald, like

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1 Mound, like Portsmouth. The groups involved in  
2 this process from Ohio are the Ohio Emergency  
3 Management Agency, the Ohio Department of Health,  
4 and the Ohio EPA.

5 From time to time we've discussed the  
6 Paddy's Run Road site at this meeting. You may  
7 have been wondering what's been happening at that  
8 site. I'm not going to go into great detail.

9 One of the people that works on this  
10 site is here tonight, and I'll introduce him in a  
11 minute.

12 Under the original schedule, we would  
13 have had a public meeting on the remedial  
14 investigation at this point with that site. What  
15 has happened is that the remedial investigation  
16 generated so many comments that it took a long time  
17 for Ohio to review that. We've just gotten those  
18 comments out and back to the Paddy's Run Road site  
19 representatives. So we're waiting for them to get  
20 back. So basically the process has been delayed  
21 mainly due to a document that wasn't, just wasn't  
22 sufficient.

23 And as always, we're here tonight to  
24 answer your questions. I have some additional

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1 representatives with Ohio EPA; Tom Schneider and  
2 Kurt Kollar working cleanup and remedial group,  
3 Mike Proffitt, who works in groundwater issues both  
4 on the Paddy's Run Road site and on the Fernald  
5 site, Dave Okerbloom, who works in the wastewater  
6 program, and Bob Cohen, who is a consultant to Ohio  
7 EPA from the consulting firm called Geotrans out of  
8 Washington, DC. They are an expert consulting firm  
9 in groundwater issues. We look forward to hearing  
10 your concerns and talking to you tonight. Thank  
11 you.

12 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Graham.

13 With that, Lisa Crawford, I'm sure, has some  
14 comments to make.

15 MS. CRAWFORD: I wasn't told to be  
16 short and brief either. Does that mean --

17 MR. MORGAN: I won't dare.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MS. CRAWFORD: I have an hour,  
20 right?

21 MR. MORGAN: Yes, ma'am.

22 MS. CRAWFORD: I don't have a whole  
23 lot, but I do have a few comments.

24 One of the things -- and I talked to

1 Tom Rowland about this a couple weeks ago when I  
2 met with him -- One of the things FRESH feels real  
3 strongly about, and Jim mentioned it, we need a  
4 full-time, permanent site manager. Now, when you  
5 go back to DC, and hopefully when Jerry gets there,  
6 please tell them. I know there's a problem. We  
7 all know what the problem is, and that we feel very  
8 disconnected here. People are being pulled in and  
9 out of here, and it really puts us in a bind. And  
10 we feel it really, you know, puts the site in a  
11 bind. And it messes with the continuity of what's  
12 happening. And we feel very strongly about that.

13 We welcome you, Tom. We hope you'll  
14 stick around.

15 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you.

16 MS. CRAWFORD: It kind of becomes a  
17 revolving door around here, but we think that's a  
18 really important issue that we cannot hit on hard  
19 enough; that we really need somebody here  
20 permanently.

21 We hope, with Jerry being transferred  
22 to Washington, you get a replacement for him like  
23 tomorrow, and make sure it's a good person who is  
24 willing to work with us the way Jerry was willing



1 to work with us so we can hopefully get some more,  
2 some better continuity going here too.

3 With regard to the extensions, the --  
4 what do you call them -- with DOE asking US EPA for  
5 the extension on the OU stuff, we're really  
6 disappointed, very disappointed. And we have a lot  
7 of concerns about that. And these were milestones  
8 that we had been assured could be met and would be  
9 met, and it concerns us a lot when you come to us  
10 now and say we can't meet them.

11 One of the reasons, I believe, since  
12 we've been through a transition here, and FERMCO  
13 has been on for three months, and Westinghouse is  
14 gone, and you get into this whole process, I feel  
15 that a whole lot of time has been spent on talking  
16 about off-site office buildings and, you know,  
17 saving \$300,000,000 and doing all these great  
18 things. A lot of time was spent on that instead of  
19 being spent on what it should have been spent on.  
20 And that's making sure you're meeting your  
21 milestones and doing your cleanup work. I feel  
22 very strongly about that.

23 I think the milestones need to be  
24 enforced, and I will agree with what Jim Saric said

1 tonight; we know you're not going to meet those  
2 tonight, but make those delays as limited as  
3 possible, and let's get going here.

4           A couple weeks ago, we felt like we  
5 had a really bad communication setback. We  
6 addressed it the best way we know how to address  
7 those kinds of things, and hopefully it was nipped  
8 in the bud.

9           We'll continue to monitor that, and  
10 we'll certainly give you feedback if we don't think  
11 we're moving forward with the communication  
12 process.

13           The last -- In the last week  
14 actually, I've received an anonymous letter, and I  
15 got an anonymous phone call yesterday morning that  
16 really gave me a lot of concern. I will share the  
17 letter with DOE, but I'll block out people's names  
18 because I don't want to impinge upon anybody's  
19 personal names.

20           This letter is very specific about  
21 money that's being wasted, people who are not doing  
22 their jobs, people who have spent a lot of money on  
23 equipment that they don't know how to use, people  
24 who are in a position that, if this is true, are

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65

1 not qualified to be in those positions. It came  
2 from some concerned citizen. And it scared me, and  
3 I'll share that with you, but I'll block out  
4 people's names because I don't want their names to  
5 be used.

6                   The other thing I got yesterday  
7 morning on my answering machine was an anonymous  
8 phone call that basically said, every Monday, this  
9 place, The Plantation, is rented out for new  
10 employees, just said for new employees.

11                   We have serious questions about  
12 that. You know, what are you doing with your new  
13 employees in The Plantation every Monday, number  
14 one. If it's employee orientation, or training, or  
15 whatever it is, that seems like a waste of money to  
16 us. I'm sure it could be done in the cafeteria on  
17 the site, or in a conference room on the site, or  
18 whatever.

19                   It concerns me that I have to get  
20 anonymous phone calls and anonymous letters to tell  
21 me about things like -- we didn't know you were  
22 renting The Plantation out every Monday for  
23 employee orientation.

24                   I think these are things, two

1 things, we need to sit down and talk about. And  
2 I'd certainly like some answers to the issues that  
3 are addressed in the phone call and in the letter.

4 We talked about we're going to have  
5 a -- FRESH is going to be able to go on another  
6 tour. Tom and I talked about this in our meeting a  
7 couple weeks ago.

8 We've scheduled it for Saturday,  
9 April the 3rd. Anybody here is welcome to sign up  
10 and come along with us. It's a Saturday, and we  
11 haven't nailed down the time or all the specifics  
12 of it yet, but we're going to sit down with a  
13 committee of people and begin to do that this  
14 coming week. We'd encourage community folks to  
15 certainly sign up and come along and go with us.  
16 We try to do this every two years. But for some  
17 reason, we missed last year.

18 So we're going -- we're hoping this  
19 will be a good thorough tour, kind of like the  
20 first one we ever took in 1986 where the actually  
21 rank and file workers were there and walked us  
22 through some of the plants and talked about their  
23 jobs. And we all sat down and had lunch together,  
24 and it was just a good cohesive tour for all of

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1 us.

2 I want to thank Jim Fiore. God knows  
3 I made his life miserable for about three months.  
4 I want to welcome Tom Rowland, and actually I will  
5 probably make your life miserable for three  
6 months. So you better get used to it. The last --

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nothing  
8 personal.

9 MS. CRAWFORD: Nothing personal, of  
10 course.

11 MS. DASTILLUNG: Just goes with the  
12 job.

13 MS. CRAWFORD: Yep, just kind of  
14 goes with the job.

15 The last thing I'll ask you is: You  
16 will provide us with copies of the overheads from  
17 tonight?

18 MR. MORGAN: Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. CRAWFORD: And that's it, thank  
20 you.

21 MR. MORGAN: We will of course be  
22 very interested in the letter. Any concern that  
23 comes across like that, we want to look at very  
24 closely.

1                   Nick, do you want to speak at all to  
2 the renting of The Plantation? I think we rent it  
3 much more than just Monday. We've about got the  
4 place tied up anymore as conference space for all  
5 kinds of things that are going on.

6                   MR. KAUFMAN: In fact, when we came,  
7 Plantation is where we first came to be trained.  
8 It has been regularly used for employee training,  
9 both new employee training as well as health and  
10 safety training. Those classes are conducted in  
11 parallel with classes that are conducted in the  
12 cafeteria and the conference rooms on site. It's  
13 simply we're out of available space to have that  
14 kind of session.

15                   We set up a new general employee  
16 training program that we begin every Monday  
17 morning. The hiring has principally been hiring  
18 new wage employees as part of the buildup for the  
19 ore one silos, as part of the buildup for the  
20 accelerated waste shipping, and part of the safe  
21 shutdown activities.

22                   We're in the process of hiring, since  
23 about the 1st of November, 150 wage people, of  
24 which about, I believe, about 70 or 80 have arrived

1 at this point. There's still another 50 in the  
2 pipeline staging up for this Summer's construction.

3 So in fact there is hiring, and we do  
4 use The Plantation for the new employee orientation  
5 and the health and safety training. We've also  
6 used the facility here to train when we put in  
7 place the new health and safety program. We're  
8 training 100 people a day, 50 in the morning, 50 in  
9 the afternoon in the new health and safety  
10 program. That's worked out very well, and it's the  
11 nearest available space of this size.

12 MS. CRAWFORD: The concern from the  
13 phone call was that it was money that was --- it was  
14 an added expense, and it was money that was getting  
15 into cleanup money. That was the concern.

16 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, again, health  
17 and safety training certainly relates to cleanup  
18 and safe conduct of the cleanup. And if that's  
19 what the individual meant, I guess there is a  
20 relationship. But certainly there's nothing more  
21 involved than what I just described.

22 MS. CRAWFORD: Okay.

23 MR. KAUFMAN: I might say that  
24 unfortunately -- we tried to set in place when we

1 came into operation a number of ways that an  
2 employee that had a concern could communicate,  
3 communicate those concerns.

4 We encouraged the employee to talk  
5 to their supervisor or to their union. And if they  
6 couldn't do either one, we set up an ombudsman, a  
7 person whose sole job is to receive complaints with  
8 a guarantee that they will be evaluated within 24  
9 hours.

10 If the individual gives their name,  
11 he will call the individual back with the results  
12 of our investigation. If not, we document the  
13 investigation and put it in the file.

14 MS. CRAWFORD: Can I call that  
15 person?

16 MR. KAUFMAN: Sure, that person is  
17 Paul Moore, and I'm sure he'd be glad to hear from  
18 you.

19 MS. CRAWFORD: What's his phone  
20 number?

21 MR. KAUFMAN: Heck, I don't know.  
22 In spite of that, we do from time to time get  
23 anonymous letters. I do. If there's an allegation  
24 of wrongdoing or misspending of money, I turn those

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1 over to the Inspector General's office because  
2 that's an allegation of federal fraud, and I don't  
3 want to mess with that.

4 If it's something that I can evaluate  
5 the facts of, then in fact I will investigate it.  
6 And from time to time, as I say, those things do  
7 come in.

8 So I would urge you to turn over the  
9 letter -- sounds like it's anonymous. Often these  
10 are, and unfortunately represent circumstances  
11 where people can't get along with somebody else and  
12 see their way clear to make these sorts of  
13 allegations. In every case, they're investigated.

14 MS. CRAWFORD: Good.

15 MR. MORGAN: Well, we'd like to open  
16 the microphones if anybody in the audience here  
17 tonight who has had a question or would like to  
18 make a comment.

19 We really need you to use the  
20 microphones. There's two up front. There's two in  
21 the back. And there's one here in the center.  
22 Please state your name.

23 This is -- we have a court reporter  
24 here -- This whole procedure is a public record

1 because the comments we receive from the public are  
2 used as we try to make our decisions. And anything  
3 that we use in our decisions needs to be made a  
4 public record. So that's why we have the  
5 microphones and the court reporter.

6 Yes, sir -- oh, Vicki.

7 MS. DASTILLUNG: I was wondering how  
8 fast the leakage of the South Plume is currently  
9 moving. I know you've had models of that in the  
10 past, but I was wondering how fast it's actually  
11 moving now that you've been able to do some  
12 monitoring.

13 MR. MORGAN: Vicki's question is how  
14 fast is the South Plume contamination moving.  
15 State your name.

16 MR. YERACE: My name is Pete  
17 Yerace. I'm the acting manager for branch 85.  
18 We've been modeling the movement of that plume, and  
19 we project at approximately 225 feet a year.

20 MR. MORGAN: Anything else, Vicki?

21 MS. DASTILLUNG: (Shaking head.)

22 MR. MORGAN: Yes, sir, gentleman in  
23 the back.

24 MR. BALDWIN: My name is Dwight

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1 Baldwin, Geology Department at Miami University.  
2 I've got a couple of questions. One would be for  
3 Ray Hansen, I guess.

4 I have a real interest in the sister  
5 facility over in Piketon, uranium enrichment plant  
6 in Piketon. And one of the concerns of the press  
7 organization over there, which is similar to FRESH,  
8 is the rumor -- I don't know if it's a rumor or not  
9 -- that some material from this plant, Fernald,  
10 has been shipped to Piketon. Is that the case?

11 MR. HANSEN: That's a true  
12 statement. This happened approximately two years  
13 ago. We had some materials on site that exceeded 5  
14 percent enrichment. We made those shipments to  
15 Portsmouth specifically to get rid of that  
16 material. That was done because basically  
17 Portsmouth handles higher enrichment.

18 The only reason we had those enriched  
19 materials on site was we had an experimental  
20 facility here that would handle small amounts of  
21 enriched materials. And those were specifically  
22 done for experimental purposes.

23 We chose to get rid of that material  
24 and get it off site. And that was done a couple

1 years ago. The most of that material,  
2 incidentally, was things like used gloves,  
3 galoshes, clothing, things like that. There was  
4 some material though that was enriched uranium  
5 material.

6 MR. BALDWIN: Metallic uranium?

7 MR. HANSEN: Yes, as far as I know.

8 MR. BALDWIN: So what was shipped  
9 over 5 percent enrichment was material that would  
10 have to be called waste as well as metal which  
11 is --

12 MR. HANSEN: It was waste to us. I  
13 don't know that it's useful to anybody. I don't  
14 think there are any plans to recover that material.

15 MR. BALDWIN: My second question  
16 would go to Jack Craig, I believe.

17 In reading the most recent Cleanup  
18 Report, there seems to be one thing that's common  
19 to operable units 2, 3 and 4 that seem to be  
20 plaguing those operable units. And that is the  
21 perched groundwater of bodies that presumably occur  
22 within the till units which cap the underlying sand  
23 ground. My question is: We never really hear much  
24 about those perched groundwater bodies; how

1 extensive do you think they are? Are they truly  
2 perched, or are they connected through perhaps  
3 gaps, thinning of the till to the underlying sand  
4 and gravel, and how do you know?

5 MR. CRAIG: I'll answer part of it,  
6 and I'll let Pete add to what I have to say. If  
7 you look on the list of removal actions, the very  
8 first removal action we identified on site was to  
9 remove some perched groundwater in the production  
10 area and treat that groundwater.

11 One of the reasons we don't talk  
12 about it at every meeting is we try to focus on  
13 things that have happened since the last meeting.  
14 It would take us all night to go through all the  
15 removal actions. But Pete could probably give you  
16 some better information.

17 MR. YERACE: I want to make a  
18 statement. I've been here five years, and I've  
19 never been able to speak in front of this  
20 microphone. Guess I get my chance twice in one  
21 night.

22 (Laughter.)

23 MR. YERACE: What we've done -- I  
24 met with the Ohio and US EPA on this -- is we also

1 were aware in the past, I'd say, 18 to 24 months  
2 that the perched water was going to be an issue  
3 that people were going to start looking at. And we  
4 initiated, approximately 12 months ago, additional  
5 investigation of the glacial overburn which you're  
6 referencing, where you will find your perched  
7 water. The perched water is just in small sand  
8 lenses, which we really can't say are connected  
9 across the site. We found one large sand lens that  
10 we can show is traveling across the site, and we  
11 presented that information to EPA recently in a  
12 technical information exchange meeting.

13 We're looking at how the  
14 contamination is going through that sand lens. But  
15 there are a lot of smaller sand lenses on the site  
16 that we can't show a connection between. We're  
17 taking that into consideration within our  
18 investigation, and we'll use that to determine how  
19 we're going to go in and remediate the smaller sand  
20 lens, if we're going to do anything at all.

21 But a lot of it is due to is there  
22 any contamination there. If we don't find any  
23 contamination in the smaller sand lens, it will not  
24 be a concern of ours.

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1 But we're looking for any  
2 connectivity between them. And it runs beneath the  
3 site, and we're right now looking at additional  
4 samples in that area.

5 MR. BALDWIN: Does seem to me that  
6 that's one of the weaker links in the entire  
7 investigative procedure that's been done on site.

8 MR. YERACE: I think what we haven't  
9 seen yet is the fact that all the other operable  
10 units have submitted or at least have developed a  
11 remedial investigation report.

12 We've never had the opportunity in  
13 OU-5 to show that information. And it was since  
14 OU-3, since the last renegotiating of the Consent  
15 Agreement from CERCLA, the perched water has fallen  
16 into OU-5. However, all the other operable units  
17 still look at the perched water. It's OU-5's  
18 responsibility to try to determine the extent of  
19 the perched water on site and where it's located.

20 MR. BALDWIN: My last question would  
21 be along the same lines. You have perched water  
22 beneath the silos, right, is it Operable Unit 3 or  
23 4?

24 MR. YERACE: Four.

1 MR. BALDWIN: And you have that  
2 decant tank, which if I understand Jack right, has  
3 filled twice. You pumped it out once, and you  
4 pumped out of it twice. How -- Is it filling with  
5 perched water, groundwater? What's going on?

6 MR. CRAIG: I'm not sure I can  
7 answer that question. Randi, do you want to try  
8 that?

9 MS. ALLEN: I'm Randi Allen from  
10 DOE, Operable Unit 4 manager.

11 The decant sump tank, it's my  
12 understanding right now -- we just got the draft RI  
13 in today -- it's above in the perched water zone.  
14 In the perched water zone right now, all we're  
15 seeing is rain water contamination. That's pretty  
16 much consistent with what's been seen all across  
17 the site. And when the tank filled to about 75  
18 percent full, we pump it out so that there is no  
19 possibility for that to leak to the aquifer.

20 MR. BALDWIN: The radium wastes have  
21 essentially -- I mean there's no radium -- no water  
22 coming from the K-65 silos, I assume, because  
23 you've got everything capped with bentonite. So  
24 where is that water coming from?



1 MS. ALLEN: In the decant sump  
2 tank?

3 MR. BALDWIN: Exactly.

4 MS. ALLEN: It's still hooked to the  
5 underdrain system underneath the silos.  
6 Infiltrated water sinks into the tank from that  
7 system. So it's rain water.

8 MR. BALDWIN: Okay.

9 MR. YERACE: Not to interrupt, I'd  
10 like to add something, that we've worked with OU-4  
11 and EPA, and we're doing additional investigation,  
12 and it's a good point you brought up. There is a  
13 sand lens that's underneath the silos, and we  
14 decided we wanted to look at characterizing that to  
15 see if there's any seepage coming from that sand  
16 lens into the Paddy's Run stream.

17 And there was a dye test performed on  
18 the decant sump, and we're going in there and  
19 actually tracing if there's anything coming from  
20 that decant sump so we can trace back along with  
21 suction lysimeters where we go in and see if  
22 there's only one sand lens there, and maybe there's  
23 two sand lenses, and we're performing that  
24 investigation right now. It will be shown in

1 OU-4's FS evaluation, and it will also be in OU-5's  
2 RI report.

3 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you.

4 MR. QUAIDER: I'd like to say,  
5 Dwight, that I found your observations quite  
6 astute. It was as if you were sitting in on a lot  
7 of our internal arguments, and like we've been  
8 working really hard internally on a lot of issues,  
9 a couple things you just brought up.

10 Any assistance you'd like to provide  
11 us as we generate our reports, you review and any  
12 questions you have are not going to do anything but  
13 help us. You hit some things right on the mark.

14 MR. BALDWIN: Thanks.

15 MR. MORGAN: Thank you. Vickie  
16 Dastillung.

17 MS. DASTILLUNG: I have another  
18 question. When you were saying that you had pumped  
19 out the decant sump for the second time, back when  
20 you first pumped and then you stored the water,  
21 what happened for all the years before that; were  
22 you pumping it, or was it just flowing, or what was  
23 going on before you started addressing it  
24 directly?

1 MR. CRAIG: I don't have the answer  
2 to that.

3 MS. ALLEN: I'll have to throw that  
4 one, too.

5 MR. MORGAN: Do we have any  
6 historians here to put that picture together?

7 MR. CRAIG: We can get you that  
8 answer. I don't know.

9 MS. DASTILLUNG: The sump system has  
10 been there since the silos were built, so it's been  
11 decades.

12 MR. CRAIG: I think, during the  
13 operation of the silos, they would recycle that  
14 water back and use it as input to the store to fill  
15 the material in the silos.

16 But what happened from the time that  
17 the silos were filled and shut until the first time  
18 it was pumped out back in April, '91, I don't know  
19 the answer.

20 MS. DASTILLUNG: So you'll get back  
21 with me?

22 MR. CRAIG: It may have backed up  
23 into the underdrain system, and the underdrain  
24 system is connected to the silos. It may have

1 backed up into the silos, and the water just stayed  
2 at a constant level.

3 MS. YOCUM: Edra Yocum. In answer  
4 -- okay. The South Plume, you said 220 feet a  
5 year. When was this number taken, what year?

6 MR. YERACE: In the EE/CA document  
7 that we prepared, I think the value was defined  
8 there as 220 feet a year the plume was moving. So  
9 we were using both realistic data that we have to  
10 track it as well as model. And that's how you  
11 verify your model. EPA has requested us to get  
12 more data down in the South Plume area, and what  
13 we'll do is use both the model to project where the  
14 contamination is at, also. Basically we think it's  
15 moving 220 feet a year. And then we will take real  
16 data, too, to see if they match up.

17 MS. YOCUM: What year of the EE/CA  
18 document?

19 MR. YERACE: What year was the EE/CA  
20 put out, '90.

21 MS. YOCUM: 1990, and what year is  
22 this, 1992 -- approximately, well --

23 (Laughter.)

24 MS. YOCUM: So as far as you're

1 concerned, it's still moving 220 feet a year?

2 MR. YERACE: Correct.

3 MS. YOCUM: And how come, when the  
4 overlays were up, it did not show the up-to-date  
5 picture of the South Plume?

6 MR. CRAIG: I can't answer that. I  
7 used the old overlay.

8 MR. YERACE: I'll tell you what it  
9 was. We also didn't have the overlay, that wasn't  
10 presented. EPA, Jim and Graham both, have  
11 requested to see recent data on where the plume is  
12 at.

13 I can send you what we have right  
14 now, which is a model projection of where the  
15 plume's actually at if you'd like to see a more  
16 recent, up-to-date --

17 MS. YOCUM: Yes, I would, but still,  
18 this is a public meeting, and that is not  
19 up-to-date information.

20 MR. YERACE: I'm not sure what  
21 overlay that --

22 MR. CRAIG: You're right, it's an  
23 old overlay. In fact, that's probably an overlay  
24 that was used as part of the EE/CA document. So

1 we'll update that before the next meeting.

2 MS. YOCUM: Okay. And then that  
3 leads me to another, the goals that Nick had  
4 mentioned about the end of the five years, one year  
5 ahead of the Consent Agreement. How are you going  
6 to do this when you're asking for extensions  
7 already on Operable Unit 2?

8 MR. KAUFMAN: The -- Our assessment  
9 is that the issues surrounding Operable Unit 2 is  
10 one of, for lack of a better analogy, building a  
11 better foundation to build all of the environmental  
12 data and documents on.

13 I might mention, Lisa expressed  
14 concern about our response to the EPA rejection of  
15 the RI that occurred about the time that we came  
16 aboard. We have put in place a significant number  
17 of new people, new resources, new computer tools.

18 I think, if, when you take your tour,  
19 you ought to look at some of these tools, talk to  
20 the regulators. I think they've seen a significant  
21 infusion of new experts in order to resolve very  
22 quickly the data inadequacies that EPA pointed out  
23 in the rejection of the RI.

24 It's our belief that, once we rebuild

1 the foundation of the data, that we'll be able to  
2 continue to accelerate the rest of the units, so by  
3 the time we're at the five-year point, indeed, we  
4 can be a year ahead. And nobody is as  
5 uncomfortable as I am with having to rebuild data  
6 at this point. But we still believe that we can do  
7 that and still make the accelerations that we had  
8 planned.

9 MS. YOCUM: Okay. Thank you.

10 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Edra. Any  
11 others in the audience? I have -- Ah.

12 MR. BROWN: Gene Brown, I'm a local  
13 representative employed with FERMCO.

14 Ken, in your opening statement, you  
15 referenced the formation of the -- an advisory --

16 MR. MORGAN: An advisory council.

17 MR. BROWN: -- a program that's been  
18 initiated and allowed to fall aside, and now  
19 apparently you're going to re-initiate.

20 My question to you would be: Who is  
21 going to select those who participate, and are you  
22 going to continue in the tradition established in  
23 1985, which prevented labor from being actively  
24 involved?

1 MR. MORGAN: Well, I'll speak to  
2 that. The first thing we're going to do is that  
3 we're going to talk to folks like labor, and Ohio  
4 EPA, and FRESH, and Crosby Township, and a lot of  
5 other people about how such a committee ought to be  
6 selected.

7 So I don't have an answer, but we  
8 want to get a consensus process to where we think  
9 that we have a representation on this committee  
10 that makes sense and a process for doing that.

11 I can say that the models, some of  
12 the other sites, are moving ahead, ahead of us.  
13 Hanford and Savannah River, they're certainly  
14 talking to labor.

15 MR. BROWN: Well, let me share a  
16 tidbit with you.

17 MR. MORGAN: Yes, sir.

18 MR. BROWN: This group when  
19 originally formed had no charter. When confronted  
20 that labor had a vested interest, a voice that may  
21 offer something of a positive nature, Lisa made  
22 this presentation with the request of the other  
23 participants that labor be involved; a charter was  
24 then erected. It had one issue, and that issue was



1 labor is barred.

2 Now, we now have an open format, and  
3 I would hope that Tom, and I know you haven't had  
4 the opportunity to be involved a great deal, and  
5 Nick would update that and include labor. We feel  
6 that there's employees that could offer something  
7 of value.

8 MR. MORGAN: Thank you very much.  
9 Other comments? I just got a couple cards.

10 First of all, got a question for  
11 DOE: What impact will President Clinton's budget  
12 cuts have on the federal cleanup program? And  
13 right now the guy closest to the Clinton  
14 administration is Jim Fiore.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MR. FIORE: Does anybody know the  
17 answer? I'll be glad to listen to it. Let me tell  
18 you what we know right now. With the new  
19 administration coming in, things have been very  
20 chaotic.

21 You have a new organization at the  
22 Office of Management and Budget. As people can  
23 tell from the President's speech, the economic  
24 issues are the most important ones in the country

1 right now.

2           The situation we have right now is  
3 the Department of Energy is getting numbers from  
4 the Office of Management and Budget almost daily on  
5 what the Department's budget will be. And then the  
6 Department of Energy then takes that overall mark  
7 and identifies what the budget will be for the  
8 various programs within the Department.

9           I think the answer on when we'll  
10 know the impact and be able to talk to you about  
11 the impact is the President's budget is supposed to  
12 go to Congress in about mid-March. Until the  
13 President officially sends the budget to Congress,  
14 all that information is embargoed or held within  
15 the executive branch. And that's just not DOE;  
16 that's all the executive agencies. And if somebody  
17 let's that information out before March 1st, or  
18 March 15th, that's a good way to end your career.

19           What I propose that we do is, as soon  
20 as that information does go to Congress, if it is  
21 mid-March, that the people at the site can sit down  
22 with FRESH in particular and talk about it fairly  
23 quickly, talk about it perhaps at the next FRESH  
24 meeting, and certainly by the time the next

1 community meeting occurs, those budget numbers will  
2 be out.

3 I will say right now that the  
4 situation is such that it could be hard economic  
5 times for all the environmental restoration  
6 programs, not just Fernald, or not just Hanford, or  
7 not just any other one. These are some dramatic  
8 times economically for all the executive branch  
9 agencies. And I think the commitment we'll make  
10 is, just as soon as that information goes public,  
11 Tom and the people at the site can sit down and  
12 share with you what the numbers ended up being,  
13 where we proposed that we would take the cuts.

14 And we'll still have time between  
15 this Spring and when the budget actually gets  
16 approved by Congress, if perhaps we've picked out  
17 the wrong activities to continue and there are  
18 others that you see that should be started,  
19 adjustments can be made to change priorities and  
20 things like that.

21 We're living within the same amount  
22 of dollars that's in the budget. So I anticipate a  
23 real interactive process, but it wouldn't really  
24 occur until mid-March.

1 MS. CRAWFORD: Can I -- I'm Lisa  
2 Crawford. What I've read and heard, out of the  
3 beltway, as people up there like to call it -- I  
4 think that's a dumb name, but anyway -- is that --  
5 and it was in the paper the other day -- is that  
6 Clinton has publicly stated he will give  
7 \$202,000,000 to the cleanup of the nuclear sites  
8 over four years. It was in the Enquirer Sunday or  
9 Monday -- Monday maybe, I think it was.

10 MR. FIORE: What was the number you  
11 were saying?

12 MS. CRAWFORD: Two hundred two mill  
13 over four years.

14 MR. FIORE: See, that number, the  
15 overall Leo Duffy budget is on the order of six to  
16 seven.

17 MS. CRAWFORD: I mean over and above  
18 what your budget already was.

19 MR. FIORE: Okay. Again, I  
20 certainly haven't seen anything that confirms added  
21 money in the budget or whatever. And I would take  
22 that newspaper article to be a speculation on the  
23 part of the newspaper from the -- But the  
24 Department even right now is getting in a different

1 number just about every day from OMB. So I  
2 wouldn't place a lot of credence in that number.

3 MS. DUNN: They're going to close  
4 one of the uranium enrichment facilities possibly  
5 in the budget cutting.

6 MR. FIORE: For the people in the  
7 back that can't hear, she mentioned that the  
8 article talked about possibly closing one of the  
9 enrichment facilities.

10 And again, I would just say that's  
11 speculation. There is a federal law that was  
12 passed setting up an enrichment corporation, a  
13 federally sponsored private enrichment corporation,  
14 which moves that out of the typical government  
15 operation.

16 And I know, as part of that process,  
17 people are looking at how they would run that as a  
18 business, and all the decisions that go with it,  
19 what plants do you operate; what plants don't you  
20 operate, what do you expand; what do you  
21 eliminate.

22 So that's still being sorted out.  
23 And just recently, a transition manager was  
24 identified who would, between now and July, figure

1 out what might be done for all the enrichment  
2 facilities.

3                   So yeah, there is speculation, but by  
4 no means are there any decisions. I think the  
5 actual decisions on the enrichment facilities  
6 depend on the President. I believe it's the  
7 President setting up a board of directors for the  
8 enrichment corporation, and then that board of  
9 directors would function just like a private  
10 business and make private business decisions.

11                   But again, that might even be a  
12 thing, if there's some interest, we can have a  
13 separate conversation about enrichment corporation  
14 because I have some people on my staff that know  
15 quite a bit about that.

16                   MR. MORGAN: Okay. Another  
17 question -- Ed really raised this one, but I'll  
18 give Nick an opportunity to flesh this out a little  
19 bit -- What steps is FERMCO taking to achieve FEMP  
20 cleaning objectives at lower cost to the  
21 taxpayers? How will the 300,000,000 savings you  
22 have mentioned be achieved? Perhaps you could give  
23 just one concrete example that illustrates the many  
24 different --

1 MR. KAUFMAN: Yeah, our analysis of  
2 the budget suggests that, if we could advance the  
3 cleanup by one year, that that would save  
4 \$120,000,000 in terms of overall carrying costs and  
5 overheads. So that represents a little over a  
6 third.

7 About 80 to \$100,000,000, we believe,  
8 can be saved through organizational and overhead  
9 issues. Specifically, early on we have  
10 incorporated some of the contract people who  
11 formerly were charging an overhead and a profit and  
12 made them employees to carry out the same function  
13 to eliminate overheads that were being charged.

14 Secondly, we reconverted all of our  
15 budget to direct charge, which eliminates overhead .  
16 charging and causes you to do what's called zero  
17 basing on all administrative costs. And we believe  
18 that those two things together have the potential  
19 for \$80,000,000 over the 5-year period.

20 The third major area that deals with  
21 trying to get earlier the decisions about how clean  
22 is clean, and how do we dispose of the waste so  
23 that we can eliminate doing several alternative  
24 engineering studies for options that would never be

1 acceptable. And as a result we can reduce the  
2 amount of engineering that's done, and we think  
3 that there's about another 80 to \$100,000,000 worth  
4 of savings there.

5 So those are three broad classes  
6 where we think there's significant money included  
7 in the fiscal '92 budget that we can save.

8 MR. MORGAN: Thanks. Finally, I  
9 have a comment from a person, essentially a  
10 criticism of the way we put our numbers in the  
11 environmental report, suggesting that we ought to  
12 use scientific notations rather than what we've got  
13 in there now.

14 I think that could get into a complex  
15 discussion, and I'd encourage you to talk to Wally  
16 because we're really interested in any suggestions  
17 for improvement that you have.

18 If there are no other comments, I  
19 want you to know that we are here tonight to serve  
20 you. If any of you want to do a little bit of one  
21 on one, we'll be happy to remain.

22 Keep the DOE managers up here. Nick,  
23 if you would stay there, and Ray. I'll be up at  
24 the front table. And Wally and Jack, why don't you

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1 go back in the back by your display there, and  
2 we'll be here. Thank you and good evening.

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4 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED

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## C E R T I F I C A T E

I, KATHERINE L. WARREN, the undersigned, a notary public-court reporter, do hereby certify that at the time and place stated herein, I recorded in stenotypy and thereafter had transcribed with computer-aided transcription the within (96), ninety-six pages, and that the foregoing transcript of proceedings is a complete and accurate report of my said stenotypy notes.

*Katherine L. Warren*

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: KATHERINE L. WARREN

AUGUST 28, 1996.

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